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**The Mausoleums of the Companions of the Prophet in al-Mazar,
Southern Jordan: an Archaeological And Architectural Study.**

Saad Mohammad al-Momani

Taleb Abdullah Smadi

Abstract

This paper deals with the mausoleums of the companions of the Prophet in the town of al-Mazar, Southern Jordan. It investigates the origin of this term linguistically as well as terminologically. The first evidence of building mausoleums was when Qabeel killed his brother Habeel for he built a mausoleum above his grave, and then this system continued through ancient eras of Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Greeks, Roman as well as late Islamic eras. Although Islamic law prohibits building mausoleums above graves, there are some exceptions to this rule occurred during the late Islamic eras especially the Saljuqs and Mamluk eras. Meanwhile, there was no interest of building mausoleums above graves during the early Islamic eras, especially Umayyads and `Abbasids until the time of Caliph Harun al-Rasheed. Therefore, building mausoleums came through foreign cultural influences, especially with the Muslim Sufis during the Saljuq rule in Baghdad in the 5th Century A. H/ 11th Century A. D. The shapes of these mausoleums range from cylindrical to square, conical, and Hex angle shapes with domes. Hence these shapes were spread from Mesopotamia to Egypt, Bilad al-Sham and Asia Minor. For the Fatimids were very much interested in building such mausoleums in Egypt for example the Dome of the Seven Daughters, Mausoleum of Ruqayyah the daughter of `Ali Bin Abi Taleb ...etc. During the Mamluk Era, Mausoleums were developed further step by adding building schools to the structure, for instance the school of Nur al-Din and his mausoleum in Damascus in the 6th century A. H. / 12th century A. D. were it became a way of burying the founder of the school in it under a dome.

Keywords: Mausoleums, Architecture, Companions, Mosques, Schools, Fatimids, Influences, Saljuqs, Ayyubids, Mamluks

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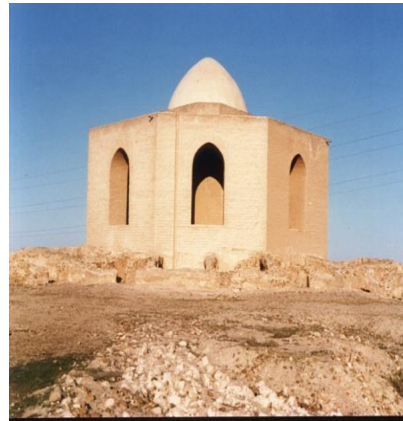
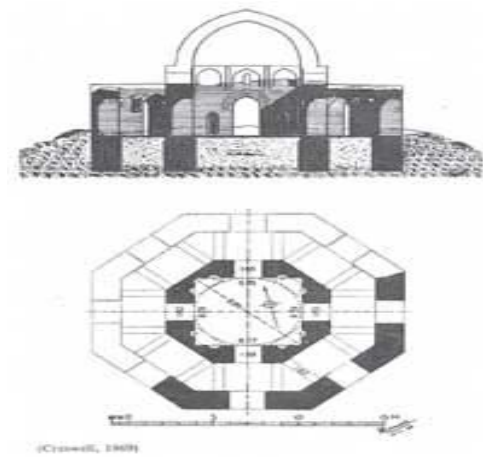
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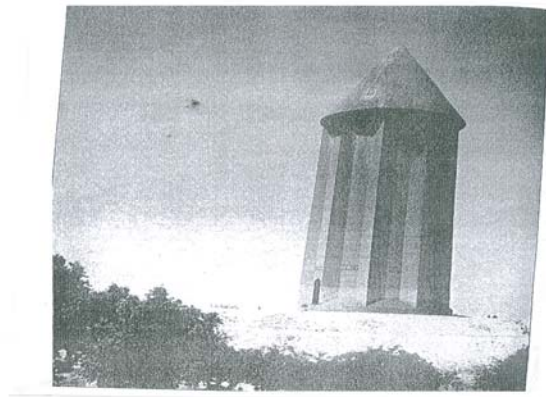
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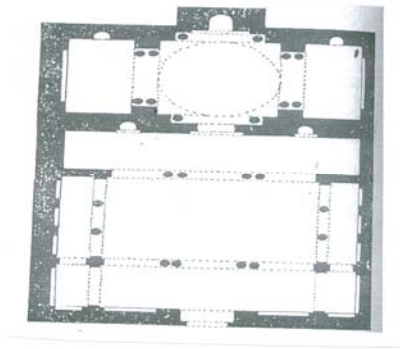


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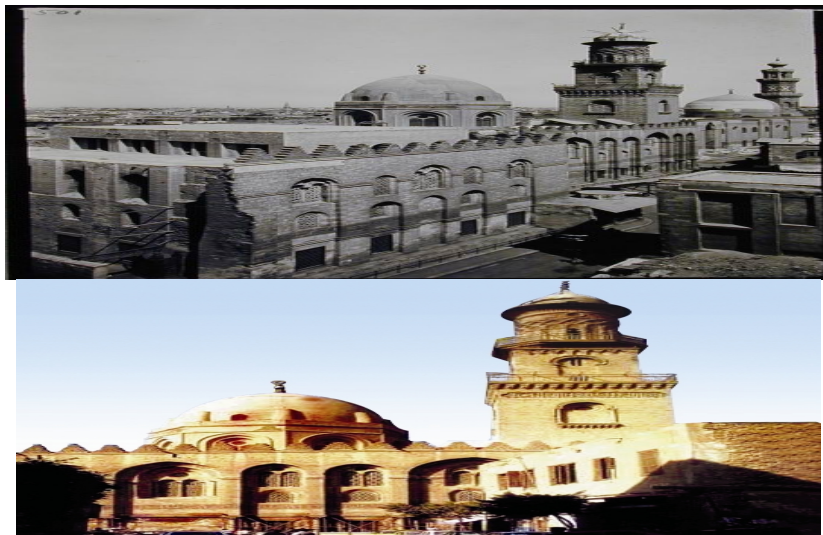
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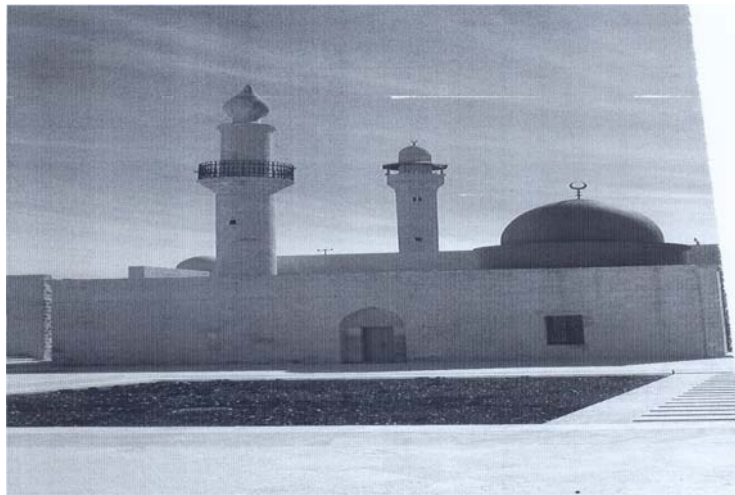
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